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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Memorandum



Supplement
to

THE CRISIS
USSR/CUBA

Information as of 1500
7 November 1962

Approved for Release
Date 16 FEB 1985

PREPARED FOR THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

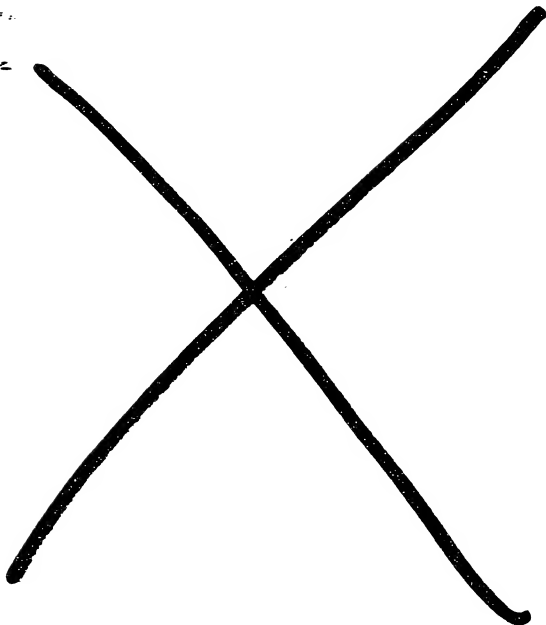
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THE SITUATION IN CUBA



BLOC DEVELOPMENTS

Khrushchev told correspondents at a Kremlin reception on 7 November that the USSR at one time had 40 rockets in Cuba, but that they have been dismantled and "are probably already on their way...." [REDACTED]

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Khrushchev's remarks also provided further evidence of serious difficulties in Mikoyan's talks with the Cuban leaders. He indirectly confirmed that Castro had not been consulted before Khrushchev's letter of 28 October was dispatched, and that Castro was extremely bitter at the Soviet leaders for agreeing to remove the missiles.

Khrushchev said the Cubans had refused to believe President Kennedy's assurances against an invasion in exchange for Soviet withdrawal of the missiles. He said the Soviets had warned the Cubans that if the USSR did not agree to this arrangement, "it would mean war." He said "we believed the President will keep his word," but added that if the President "went back on his word," that would be an "unreasonable step" which would "put us back where we were, back to a position of catastrophe."

Khrushchev, in addition, seemed to imply that he had abandoned, at least for the present, any plan to come to the UN and to meet with President Kennedy. He said there is no need at this time for a summit meeting with the President, but added that he would favor such a meeting "when peace was at stake."

(Khrushchev's remarks above now have appeared in press and radio.)

[REDACTED]